



# The Road to Good Furniture

The book begins with the most remarkable of these types, Caroline, Countess of Crewkerne, an English lady of quality, who makes arrangements for her husband to be present at her birthday on the 1st of April, when she also makes her appearance in the pages of "Araminta." She is said to have written the "Penguin" in the course of her seventy-three summers. She is a wrecker of reputations, never utters a kind word if she can possibly help it, and has seldom been known to smile. Her eyes are blue and glittering eyes and hawk-like features; she tyrannizes over a long-suffering companion, and is only good to her mother. Poor Caroline! Her outline is a vain, selfish old woman, she has her points. She is clever, and she possesses a personality which dominates her life and gives her a certain glow and force, since though she is acknowledged to be.

Most notable among her syzyphants

George Betterton, Duke of Devonshire, is a jolly, triple-faced and somewhat dissipated prince of his family, who is known by the name of "Gogo" among his friends; and Lord Cheriton, an old gossip, whose mission in life is mentioned as an ambition to always preserve an appearance of one apart from the vulgar herd. He and the countless know each other well, and the latter, on the other side, has derived zest from a display of the other's dexterity. But between the Duke of Devonshire and Lord Cheriton exists a "little rift within the lute," born of mutual and deep-rooted distrust and jealousy.

The seventy-third birthday of Countess of Devonshire is celebrated in the

torable by an idea which results in  
 an invitation to her brother-in-law, the  
 Major, John Tillotson Perry, of Silem  
 Regatta, to respond to the toast of  
 the "Four Fingers." Caroline's household  
 her niece, Araminta, six feet in height  
 and abominably attired, not over-  
 burdened as her brains, but, being a  
 sister, she is, although she is possessed of ex-  
 cellent, if somewhat rustic, breeding.  
 In her Cheriton discerns a genuine  
 Gainsborough, a reproduction in the  
 face of the famous English painter, who  
 is immortalized on the walls of Caro-  
 line's drawing-room by the greatest  
 English portraitist of his day: "A  
 perfect throwback," she remarks, "to  
 a perfect throwback." Cheriton charac-  
 terizes the Araminta, who is the great-  
 granddaughter of the renowned duch-  
 ess, as a "little thing," and she is, in  
 Cheriton, Lady Caroline's Gainsborough  
 came upon the social orbit of London as  
 a sensation, and the Wednesdays in  
 Hill Street lived, were no longer shorn  
 of their glories, these Wednesdays hav-  
 ing been preceded by Araminta's de-  
 but at Saint Sepulchre's Church on a  
 Sunday morning in May.  
 Caroline, with the game in her hands,  
 is endlessly entertaining and the story  
 of her life is a comedy. She is the Araminta's  
 suitors against the other reveals  
 her for a shrewd and worldly-wise old  
 sinner, even if she is somewhat of a  
 Araminta, and she makes herself, in  
 a silly, and has rightly come to  
 be by her nickname of "Goose Girl," but  
 she is young, her eyes are blue, her  
 hair is auburn, and her cheeks are  
 like pink roses. She flouts her  
 great grandmother, Dorset, through  
 her charms and gets her portrait painted  
 when the picture is the ancestral Gainsborough  
 masterpiece. And as she flouts her  
 grandmother, even so she routs Caro-  
 line, Countess of Dorset, for her lack of  
 money and lack of money to wealth  
 and Lord Cheriton at sixty-five for a  
 husband. She wins over them on her  
 her side, and in the end she has her  
 marriage to live, after she has her  
 riage, with her painter man in a red  
 brick house at wildfower, not far from  
 her beloved Silem Regatta.  
 The story is full of the most charm-  
 ing humor and the keenest and clever-  
 est observations and comments on hu-  
 man nature. The story is a comedy  
 and it fairly sparkles with

it, and one regrets the ending when it arrives, because it might well go on forever, like "Tommy's" immortal book.

When the author reaches the point of speculation as to the possible end of the story, he says: "Quot homines, tot sententiae. These wiseacres may be right, or they may not. I have no collar, brooch, or knot which are infallible."

**Alone of Grand Woods.**

By Nevil G. Henshaw. The Outlook Company, New York, publishers. \$1.50.

A romance of Louisiana plantation life, told from the point of view of a principal figure in the story. The neighborhood around Laundry's store, kept by Laundry Numa, a half-breed, is the scene of a good-natured but overinquisitive personage, is the centre around which the incidents of the story mainly revolve.

Father Martin, a tender-hearted and sympathetic priest, William H. Laundry, a man of strong character, and a marriage against his father's wishes with a beautiful "Cajun" girl, Alaine, are the principal characters. The story, from a yellow fever scourge, and brought up by her father's overseer, and the death of her mother, and the descent and outlaw by nature, in love with Alaine; Carey Gordon, a wealthy rice planter, gallant, brave and hated by the "Cajuns," who is successful in winning Alaine's favor, and Monsieur Varin, the "Cajun," grandfather of Alaine, are the chief characters. The book finds his granddaughter and makes amends for cruel treatment to the characters, are the main characters of the novel.

The plot hinges on the death of Alaine, who is the heroine, and the heroine, then, in her childhood, from all her family, and her being placed in a false position apart from the station where she rightfully belonged.

After being hung on a chain by her father and plunging into the water by him before his death, leads to her final identification by her grandfather, Varin, and the happy ending of the story. Numa by death, and her marriage to Carey Gordon, assures her future happiness and triumphs over the trials and privations of her childhood and youth. The book is melodramatic in tone and interesting in style.

**HISTORICAL BOOKS.**

The *Age* is after the Postmaster and

By David Miller Dewitt, The Macmillan Co. of New York. \$2.25.

THE first of the American revolutions, by which the Lincoln centenary year is signaled, begins with the 6th of July, 1826, when Junius Brutus Booth, the first of the first family of actors in the United States on the Richmond stage, and won his way to instant fame and wealth, when he was twenty-one years old. Wilkes Booth, who had just attained the age of thirteen years when his father died, in 1839.

Booth's career from the date of his father's death to the time when his body was placed in a gun box and sent to the Federal penitentiary in Washington is circumstantially given. Then follows a brief account of the conspiracy, its trial, its finalness and the execution which followed.

The book contains the following significant paragraph: "The 'Conspiracy' postulated by the military commission, it is now conceded never existed. Had it, the execution of Jefferson Davis outlived the charge."

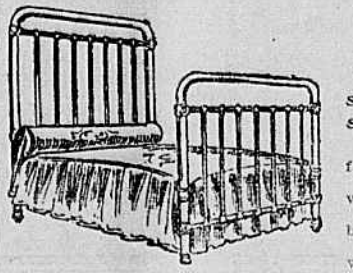
and statues have been erected to his memory, around the base of which soldiers of the Union and soldiers of the Confederacy mingled their applause. When Thompson died the flag of the United States was lowered at half mast over the Department of the Interior. Clay anticipated in his lifetime the vindication published by his widow after his death. Surratt still lives in the full enjoyment of his rights as a citizen. The convicts sent to Fur-

A detailed illustration of a vintage treadle sewing machine. The machine features a large, ornate wooden cabinet with decorative carvings. The brand name 'J. WHITE' is visible on the front panel. The machine is mounted on a sturdy cast-iron stand with a decorative, lattice-like base. A large hand-crank wheel is positioned on the right side, connected to a treadle mechanism at the bottom. The overall design is characteristic of late 19th-century domestic sewing machines.

## THE NEW METHOD.

A detailed illustration of a vintage cast-iron range. The range features a side burner on the left, a main oven with a decorative panel, and a smaller oven below it. The panels are inscribed with 'RANGE' and 'GENUINE'. The entire unit is supported by a sturdy, ornate base.

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\$5.00 Iron Beds; enameled in blue and white; reduced to...	<b>\$2.50</b>	\$10.00 Iron Beds, enameled in white and green; reduced to.....	<b>\$5.75</b>
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portugas were pardoned by President Johnson before the expiration of his term." Of Mrs. Surratt the author declares: "If she had been awarded a trial by jury, she would not have been convicted. The trial actually awarded her was not only unconstitutional and

# OUR CONFEDERATE COLUMN

OW GENERAL LEE LEARNED OF  
BURNSIDE'S PLANS.

Doctor William Pennyson Passmore  
a Frequent Visitor to the Enemy's  
Camp.

Lieutenant D. R. Love, of the  
Lunenburg Light Dragoons," Co. G,  
1st Va. Cavalry, gives the following  
interesting account of the very val-  
uable and hazardous service rendered  
by Dr. Passmore in securing infor-  
mation for General Lee in regard to  
Burnside's plans and movements im-  
mediately before the battle of Fred-  
ricksburg. R. W. H.

Reedy P. O., Lunenburg Co., VA.  
January 1, 1899.

Much has been written in your columns in commemoration of the deeds of daring and bravery of the Confederate soldiers in the War between the States, which adds to the undisputed claim of our people, that the Confederate army was composed of the greatest volunteer soldiery that the world has

But daily revelations are being made of deeds of heroism and interpidity on the part of private soldiers, who have long since gone to their reward, after lives of modesty and humility, the only reward desired or accorded them being a conscious satisfaction of duty well done, which shows that "the halt has never been told" of these great and

atriots, in history, song, poetry and prose. Every community has its unknown hero, worthy of lasting memory, and the valuable service of such an one I wish to record by giving an account, before unpublished, of that reneger to Gen. Robert E. Lee before the battle of Fredericksburg by the late Doctor William Tennyson Passmore, an Englishman by birth, who when a child was brought to Baltimore, where he was

At the outbreak of the war, about June, 1861, he enlisted in the Lunenburg regiment, and served with his command in the ~~four~~ <sup>four</sup> counties of Greenbrier, Randolph and others beyond Intersville, in what is now West Virginia, under General Loring. After that campaign we were ordered to Fred-

legal, it was not even fair. She was  
arrested, convicted and executed in  
1937, and about her confession there  
lingers a dark suspicion that  
"death sentence was extorted by  
a surreptitious device, and her death-  
sentence procured by another."

cksburg and became a company of the Virginia Cavalry. His assignment, which was assigned to duty in Maryland county, in camp at the court-house for the winter of 1862, holding a Potomac River as our line. The first of March 1863 had on the first of the first of the Federal army was sent back to Washington limping and impeded, to be marshalled again under a new commanding general, whose attempt to retrieve the lost for the second battle of the second battle resulted so disastrously as to cause his removal and the appointment of General Burnside in his place. Under these masters of war the Federal army was sent to the quiet and historic old town of Fredericksburg.

ing, separated by the peaceful and  
pure waters of the Rappahannock and  
created by the Creator's hand in its  
early days. It was a peaceful place  
and thus affording a temporary barrier  
and peacemaker to stay the apparent  
onset of the town by keeping apart the  
howling and restless "dogs of war."  
The "dogs of war" were the soldiers  
who came to wash when heartened by their  
captains' voices into an inevitable death  
struggle and headlong destruction. We  
can still so often heard from particu-  
lar places in the struggle and have our  
lives and limbs in jeopardy, or the  
little of Fredericksburg on the cold  
and snowy day of December 13,  
1862, that it is too well known to our  
children to need repetition in your col-

The world knows how General Lee rode Burnside's army back, bleeding and whipped, like a scattered gang of rds into a bivouac. But the story of the battle is not told. It is to be told and give General Lee the information necessary to win this great victory, therefore untold. I will now tell.

The ability and skill of Doctor Passmore as a physician were well known among the army for him to remain in the capacity of a private soldier, and the officers caused his detailed duty in the medical department. There he rendered valuable service in the treatment of the wounded and remained on the company rolls. One day he rode six weeks before the battle. He made into camp to my mess, having

General Lee wished information as to numbers, plans of attack, etc., and as a reliable and intelligent report is necessary, and General Lee had requested him to go and authorized him to select and take a friend with him, a man of courage and intelligence to be trusted, one who could take care of himself in any emergency by avoiding

suspicion, appearing innocent and fearless; this being done, to make sure of something with the information obtained, he was both lost or taken. For the service of so hazardous mission the reward of a discharge from duty for the rest of the war was promised. He intimated me to accompany him, but I declined the invitation and considered him crazy to go himself on such an undertaking. He could not return alive. He was captured to go, and to touch the situation, he and Chumney agreed to go with him. They at once started in the direction of Fredericksburg to the Union lines and succeeded in getting through the lines toward the rear. They were recognized by Union men and the Reverend Hunnecutt, who afterward was notorious in the political history of the reconstruction of the South. They were taken to the rear, and their presence within the Yankee lines. Chumney became alarmed at

meeting Hunnewell and returned camp, but Doctor Passmore went on horseback, and soon after he was entering the store a Mr. Scott, with whom he engaged in a conversation. Five Yankees came in in search of him. He quickly got behind the counter and became busy with the accounts. He was suspected, and he suspected the Yankees, supposing he was clerk, left after a few minutes in questioning Mr. Scott. He remained there until night, when he was released. He was taken to the upper ford about six miles west of Fredericksburg, in Stafford county, where he stopped at the house of a farmer with whom he had previously stayed while using the house for a school.

He secured from this man an old horse and cart, which he loaded with chickens, butter, eggs, milk and vegetables, which he promised to sell to the German camp, disguised as a half-breed, and to all appearances a half-blood non-combatant. He drove to the general's headquarters, was kindly treated, and given dinner for himself and horse. The general expressed his desire that he should bring fresh supplies for his men, and he promised to urge him to come regularly. But he appeared uneasy, and expressed his fear at being among so many strange soldiers, saying nearly all the time that he would like to go home, and that he was afraid to stay here, and to leave his wife and children.

lest he hurt him and his horse and wagon and stuff taken from him. Tim, in general, somewhat amused at the simplicity, allayed his fears by telling him that he had only to follow him to his army, and that to come when he wished, as they would not hurt him and to allay his fears he directed his adjutant to give him a pass and permission to bring and sell his stuff as often as he wished, and to make daily trips to the headquarters market and sell his produce. He was so well liked by the officers that no hesitation was apparent in their conversation with him about the numbers, the amount of the tax, the manner of demanding, as well as of their confidence in the success of their plans.

The Yankoes gave him enough dried blankets and army clothing to fill a room in the house of the man with whom he was stopping, but he continued to wear his ragged clothes, and from his daily trade made much money for him as long as he thought it necessary to remain to get the information General Lee desired. We, his messmates, having been formed by Chumney, of the discovery

of their presence within the Yankee lines, and that Passmore was being pursued, had given him up for dead. "I was not in six or seven weeks," he said, "and I could not say where you should be. I could only say, 'Go up the hill to our tent but Passmore!' " "Not for news," I thought; but he went only tell us to prepare for the battle which we would have in three days. "I went at once to General Lee's headquarters," he said, "and I counted out all he had learned from Burnside, his strength, plan of attack, the position of the different commands of the army corps, and the names of the generals who commanded them, and I reported all to General Lee's headquarters with the least delay possible. The world knows the result, and I have already disclaimed any purpose of adding or attempting to add anything to the history of the great victory for the Confederate army; but I will say especially the cooperation of Lunenburg counts as a large one. I know that General Lee selected a physically frail and most gently and kindly natured Lunenburg man for the important and perilous undertaking of securing information concerning the movements of the Federal army. It made good to the satisfaction of General Lee, and that he accepted the report with such confidence as on it to plan, fight and win one of the great

the battles of the war. "I remember," I saw my friend Passmore very often, and he came to me and told me of his good-bys to us, and to show that he and General Lee had kept faith with each other, he exhibited a leave of absence and an order from General Lee directing him to return to his home in Petersburg, and remain there until further orders. When he came to me, he was a man of fine bearing, and his one daring, bold and effective stroke filled the measure of a soldier's duty and earned as a reward the plaudits of his great command and his final discharge as a soldier. He retired to his pleasant home at Pleasant Grove, in Lunenburg, and though he became completely paralyzed soon after the war and had to be lifted to and from his chair, bed and carriage, he lived twenty years a life of great usefulness in his community, took an active part in the affairs of his home and his country, and his long days followed the pulpit work and his counsels and advice were always respected and esteemed, and at the time of his death he continued administrator to the sick and those in distress.

Two of his sons are now living at the old home—"Pleasant Grove"—and are considered among the leading, most successful business men in Luzerne county. Mr. Lee has been prominent in Luzerne county in all matters pertaining to the industrial and civic advancement of their county. W. T. Passmore, Jr. being one of the largest and most prosperous farmers of this section of Luzerne county and his younger brother, Mr. George E. Lee, is one of the highly successful business life, has taken an active part in the public affairs of the county, and been honored by his fellow-citizens with positions of honor and trust. He represented Luzerne county in the Luzerne Delegates of 1897-1898. Peace be the ashes of William Passmore; may he rest in hope of reward from God greater than Robert E. Lee in this kingdom above for duty well done on earth, is the sentiment and prayer of his friend and comrade.

D. R. LOVE,  
Lieutenant Company G. Ninth  
Infantry Cavalry, A. N. V.